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**REAL-GAS EFFECTS IN THE FLOW OF METHANE AND NATURAL
GAS THROUGH CRITICAL-FLOW NOZZLES**

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INTRODUCTION

When critical-flow nozzles are used for metering the mass flow rate of natural gas, the isentropic flow equations for a perfect gas do not apply. (A critical-flow nozzle is one in which the throat velocity equals the local speed of sound. It has also been called a sonic-flow nozzle or a choked nozzle.) In this paper, a perfect gas is defined as one having an invariant specific heat and a compressibility factor of unity. A perfect gas is to be distinguished from an ideal gas, which has a temperature-dependent specific heat and unity compressibility factor. A nonperfect gas is a real gas. In the absence of dissociation, all real gases approach the ideal-gas condition as the pressure is reduced. The assumption that the gas is perfect is sufficiently accurate for computing the flow of such gases as air and nitrogen at atmospheric pressure and room temperature. However, natural gas cannot be considered perfect even at pressures less than atmospheric, since natural gas has an appreciable specific-heat variation with temperature. That is, under this condition, natural gas can be considered ideal, but not perfect. At higher pressures, the compressibility factor variation also becomes important.

A number of methods have been used to calculate the isentropic mass flow rate of nonperfect gases. One of these methods is that used in reference 1. In this reference, an isentropic exponent is calculated, and this is then used in the conventional isentropic-flow equations to calculate the flow rates of real gases. Reference 2, using the tabulated data of reference 3,

presents tables of compressible-flow functions for the one-dimensional flow of air. Reference 4, using the data of reference 3, presents tables of a critical-flow factor for air, nitrogen, oxygen, normal hydrogen, parahydrogen, and steam that permit the calculation of the isentropic mass flow rate of these gases through critical flow nozzles. Reference 5 presents the critical-flow factor for nitrogen and helium, and, in addition, describes a computer routine for making these real gas computations. In reference 6, a method for calculating both the mass flow rate and the upstream volume flow rate of natural gas through critical-flow nozzles is given. This method requires knowledge of the upstream pressure, temperature, and composition of the natural gas.

In this paper, the results of reference 6 are presented, and, in addition, data for methane are presented which are more accurate than the data in reference 6. These new data are calculated from a state equation given in reference 7. This state equation represents recent methane data and is probably as accurate a representation of the pressure-density-temperature behavior of methane as is presently available. The calculated results in this paper cover a temperature range of 250 to 390 K (450 to 700 R) and pressures up to $69 \times 10^5 \text{ N/m}^2$ (1000 psia).

This paper will consider only isentropic flow. Actual deviations from isentropic conditions presumably would be embodied in a nozzle discharge coefficient that would be expressible as a function of Reynolds number.

SYMBOLS

A	area
a	speed of sound
a_c	constant in equation (17)
a_z	constant in equation (18)
b_c	constant in equation (17)
b_z	constant in equation (18)
C_D	discharge coefficient
c_v	specific heat at constant volume
C^*	critical flow factor defined in equation (10)
f	composition factor defined in equation (16)
H	enthalpy
K_H	integration constant in equation (5)
K_S	integration constant in equation (6)

M	molecular weight
\dot{m}	mass flow rate
p	pressure
R	gas constant
R_m	gas constant for calculating mass flow rate (eq. 14)
R_v	gas constant for calculating volume flow rate (eq. 15)
S	entropy
T	temperature
\dot{V}	volume flow rate
v	velocity
X	mole fraction of component in a natural gas mixture
Z	compressibility factor
β	ratio of nozzle throat diameter to inside pipe diameter
γ	specific heat ratio
ρ	density

Subscripts:

0	refers to plenum station
1	refers to nozzle throat station
p	refers to a perfect-gas condition
i	refers to an ideal-gas condition

ANALYSIS

The conditions assumed in this analysis are as follows: The gas is at rest in a plenum and accelerates one-dimensionally and isentropically to the throat of a nozzle, where its speed is sonic. The measured quantities are the plenum pressure and temperature. The gas is assumed to be neither perfect nor ideal and its state equation is given by:

$$p = Z\rho RT \quad (1)$$

where Z is the compressibility factor and is a function of density and temperature. The assumption that the flow is one-dimensional and starts from rest is represented by

$$H_0 = H_1 + \frac{1}{2} v_1^2 \quad (2)$$

The assumption that the flow is isentropic is represented by

$$S_0 = S_1 \quad (3)$$

and the fact that the flow is sonic is represented by

$$v_1 = a_1 \quad (4)$$

In order to solve equations (1) through (4), it is necessary to express enthalpy, entropy, and the speed of sound in terms of density and temperature. The expressions for enthalpy and entropy as developed in reference 8 can be expressed as

$$\frac{H}{R} = \int \frac{c_{v,i}}{R} dT + T \left[Z - \int_0^p T \left(\frac{\partial Z}{\partial T} \right)_\rho \frac{d\rho}{\rho} \right] + K_H \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{S}{R} = \int \frac{c_{v,i}}{R} \frac{dT}{T} - \ln \rho - \int_0^p \left[Z - 1 + T \left(\frac{\partial Z}{\partial T} \right)_\rho \right] \frac{d\rho}{\rho} + K_S \quad (6)$$

K_H and K_S are constants of integration for the indefinite temperature integrals in equations (5) and (6). As far as equations (2) and (3) are concerned, the values chosen for these constants are immaterial, because they cancel out from both sides of the equations. The expression for the speed of sound, also derivable from reference 8,

$$\frac{a^2}{RT} = Z + \rho \left(\frac{\partial Z}{\partial \rho} \right)_T + \left[Z + T \left(\frac{\partial Z}{\partial T} \right)_\rho \right]^2 / (c_v/R) \quad (7)$$

where

$$\frac{c_v}{R} = \frac{c_{v,i}}{R} - \int_0^p \left[2T \left(\frac{\partial Z}{\partial T} \right)_\rho + T^2 \left(\frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial T^2} \right)_\rho \right] \frac{d\rho}{\rho} \quad (8)$$

By substituting equations (5) through (8) in equations (2) through (4), the resulting equations are in terms of density and temperature. Since these equations involve plenum density and temperature rather than the measured plenum pressure and temperature, equation (1) has to be solved for plenum density. The density and temperature equivalents of equations (2) through (5) are then solved for nozzle throat density, temperature, and velocity. The computational procedures for these solutions along with the associated computer program are documented in reference 9. At this

point, the mass flow rate of natural gas through a critical-flow nozzle of throat area, A_1 , can be calculated as follows

$$m = C_D \cdot A_1 \cdot \rho_1 \cdot v_1 \quad (9)$$

In this equation, the discharge coefficient, C_D , mainly represents the effects of the nonisentropic and non-one-dimensional flow in the boundary layer of the nozzle. C_D is usually determined by a nozzle calibration and is plotted as a function of Reynolds number. Typical values of C_D are between 0.96 and 1.0. In these calculations, two equations are used to describe the behavior of natural gas. One is the state equation, (eq. (1)) and the other describes the ideal-gas specific heat. These equations are discussed next.

State equation. Since natural gas is a mixture of many gases, it is desirable to choose a state equation such that the values of its coefficients for a gas mixture can be determined from the coefficients for the individual components of the gas mixture. Such an equation is that developed by Benedict, Webb, and Rubin in references 10 and 11. The form of this equation and the values of the coefficients used for the calculations in this paper are given in reference 9.

Ideal-gas specific heat. This is described by a power series in temperature. The data sources and the power series coefficients for the natural gas components are given in reference 9.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of these calculations are presented in terms of a dimensionless critical-flow factor which is defined as follows:

$$C^* = \frac{(\rho_1 v_1) \sqrt{RT_0}}{p_0} \quad (10)$$

If the gas were perfect, the expression for the critical-flow factor would be constant, would only involve the specific-heat ratio, and would be given by:

$$C_p^* = \left[\gamma \left(\frac{2}{\gamma + 1} \right)^{(\gamma+1)/(\gamma-1)} \right]^{1/2} \quad (11)$$

In terms of the critical-flow factor, the actual mass flow rate of a gas through a critical-flow nozzle is given by

$$\dot{m} = C_D \cdot A_1 \cdot C^* \cdot \frac{p_0}{\sqrt{R_m T_0}} \quad (12)$$

The upstream volume flow rate is then given by

$$\dot{V}_0 = C_D \cdot A_1 \cdot C^* \cdot Z_0 \sqrt{R_V T_0} \quad (13)$$

The specific gas constant in equation (12) is

$$R_m = \frac{48.03}{M} \quad (14)$$

where M is the molecular weight, in order to give \dot{m} in pounds per second p_0 is in psia, A_1 is in square inches, and T_0 is in degrees Rankine.

The specific gas constant for equation (13) is

$$R_V = \frac{2.398}{M} \quad (15)$$

in order to give \dot{V}_0 in cubic feet per second, the units of A_1 and T_0 are the same as those in equation (12).

In equations (12) and (13), the quantities used in determining \dot{m} and \dot{V}_0 are the upstream plenum (stagnation) pressure and temperature. In a typical installation, the critical-flow nozzle is installed in a pipe, and the measured pressure is the static pressure that exists at an upstream pipe tap. In order that \dot{m} calculated from this measured pressure shall approximate the \dot{m} calculated from the upstream stagnation pressure, the ratio β of the nozzle throat diameter to the upstream, inside pipe diameter should be small. To achieve an error of less than 0.1 percent in \dot{m} , β should be less than 0.25. The error is on the order of $0.2 \beta^4$. B. T. Arberg, in a private communication, recommends that β should not exceed 0.25.

If a critical-flow meter is used to prove a volumetric flow meter such as a turbine meter, equation (13) should be used with caution. This equation only applies if the volumetric flow meter is upstream of the critical flow meter, and if the pressure drop between the meters is negligibly small. If this is not true, \dot{m} must be calculated from equation (12), and the density of the gas flowing through the volumetric meter determined separately. By measuring the pressure and the temperature of the gas at the

volumetric meter location, this density can be calculated through the use of a state equation (eq. (1)). In measuring the temperature, care should be taken that this temperature will yield the average gas density. This is easy to do if the pipe wall and the gas flowing through the pipe are at the same temperature, which can be achieved if the pipe is insulated, and if time is taken to allow the flowing gas and the pipe to come to thermal equilibrium. Static pressure is usually adequately constant over the pipe cross section, if there is adequate length of straight pipe upstream.

The critical-flow factor was calculated for methane and 19 natural-gas compositions. These compositions were determined from natural-gas samples taken from pipelines throughout the country. The data were supplied in a private communication from Mr. Harry Schroyer of American Meter Company. The range of composition of these gases is given in Table 1. Any alkane in the natural gas having more than 4 carbon atom was ignored. The amount ignored was always less than 0.4 percent by volume; in most cases, it was about 0.1 percent.

Figures 1 and 2 present the critical-flow factor for two typical natural-gas compositions. The dotted portion of the 450 R curve on figure 2 represents a region in the calculation where the partial pressure of one of the components is above the saturation pressure of that component. It is observed that in the limit of zero pressure, a $1\frac{1}{2}$ percent variation in the critical-flow factor exists over the temperature range covered. This is due to the variation of the ideal-gas specific heat with temperature. At a fixed temperature, the variation of the critical-flow factor due to pressure is as much as 20 percent for the pressure range 0 to 1000 psi.

Since the graphical presentation of the data for all 19 natural-gas mixtures would make this paper excessively long, a compact method of presenting these data would be desirable. A method was found that involves a composition factor, f . For methane and the 19 natural-gas mixtures, both the critical-flow factor and the square root of the compressibility factor are linear functions of f . This factor is defined as follows:

$$f = X_{C_2H_6} + X_{CO_2} - \frac{1}{2} X_{N_2} + 2X_{C_3H_8} + 3X_{C_4H_{10}} \quad (16)$$

where X represents the mole fraction of the component whose chemical symbol appears as a subscript on the X . The accuracy of the critical-flow factor is improved if the correlation is in terms of the product of the critical-flow factor and the square

root of the compressibility factor rather than of the critical-flow factor alone. This correlation is as follows:

$$C^* \sqrt{Z_0} = a_c f + b_c \quad (17)$$

where a_c and b_c are functions of plenum pressure and temperature and are determined by means of a least square fit of the data calculated for methane and the 19 natural-gas mixtures. The values of a_c and b_c are listed in Tables 2 and 3. In equation (17), b_c represents the contribution of the methane and $a_c f$ represents the contribution of the other components. (For a perfect-gas mixture with $\gamma = 4/3$, the value of b_c would be 0.6732 and the value of a_c would be 0.)

The coefficients in equation (16) and the form of the equation are entirely empirical. They result from an intuition regarding the contributions of the various components and from several trial-and-error assumptions of numerical values of the coefficients. The values of $C^* \sqrt{Z_0}$ calculated by equation (17) agree with the values of $C^* \sqrt{Z_0}$ used to compute a_c and b_c to within 0.1 percent.

In a similar manner, the square root of the compressibility factor can be represented by

$$\sqrt{Z} = a_z f + b_z \quad (18)$$

where a_z and b_z are functions of pressure and temperature and are obtained from a least squares fit of the data calculated for methane and the 19 natural-gas mixtures. The values of a_z and b_z are listed in Tables 4 and 5. The values of \sqrt{Z} calculated by equation (18) agree with the values calculated by the Benedict-Webb-Rubin state equation to better than 0.5 percent. In most of the cases, the agreement is better than 0.1 percent.

In terms of the factors involved in equations (17) and (18), the expressions for the mass flow rate and volume flow rate become:

$$\dot{m} = C_D A_1 \frac{(a_c f + b_c)}{(a_z f + b_z)} \cdot \frac{p_0}{\sqrt{R_m T_0}} \quad (19)$$

and

$$\dot{V}_0 = C_D A_1 (a_c f + b_c) (a_z f + b_z) \cdot \sqrt{R_V T_0} \quad (20)$$

Since the coefficients, a_c , b_c , a_z , and b_z used in these equations are determined by curve fitting calculated data, the following precautions should be observed in the use of these equations.

1. The mole fractions of the natural-gas components should lie within the range indicated in table 1.
2. The composition factor f should be less than 0.18, which is the maximum value of f calculated for any of the 19 natural gases.

In reference 6, Mr. Hilding Beck, who is one of the discussors in this reference, presents a simplified method of calculating \dot{m} and V_0 that is suitable for field use. This method, which uses the data of reference 6, is useful for pressures to 400 psia, and for temperatures from 500 to 560 R.

Although \dot{m} and \dot{V} as calculated by equations (19) and (2) are more accurate than if they were calculated using the assumption that natural gas was perfect, errors are still present. The principle sources of these errors are inaccuracies in the Benedict-Webb-Rubin state equation. Recently, Vennix and Kobayashi, in reference 7, presented a state equation for methane that is probably accurate to better than 0.1 percent over the range of pressures and temperatures covered in this paper. In tables 6 and 7 the values of both the critical-flow factor and compressibility factor as calculated by this equation are presented. The details of these calculations are beyond the scope of this paper. In table 8, the values of C^* and Z_0 for methane, as calculated by using equations (17) and (18), are compared with the values of C^* and Z_0 as tabulated in tables 6 and 7. It is seen that differences of up to 1 percent occur in both C^* and Z_0 . Over most of the range, the differences are on the order of 1/4 percent. It should be pointed out that while these differences do not exactly apply for natural-gas mixtures, they should apply approximately, since methane is the principal component of natural gas.

SUMMARY

Equations for the mass flow rate of methane and nineteen natural-gas mixtures through critical flow nozzles have been established, including real-gas effects. For these calculations, the Benedict-Webb-Rubin state equation was used. The data are presented in such a manner, that the mass flow rate can be determined for most natural gases whose composition is known. In addition to the methane calculations based on the Benedict-Webb-Rubin state equations, methane calculations based on a recent

and more accurate state equation are presented. In all cases, the calculations are for pressures to 69×10^5 N/m² (1000 psia) and temperatures from 250 to 390 K (450 to 700 R).

TABLE 1. - COMPOSITION RANGE OF 19 NATURAL GASES

Gas	Mole Fraction
Methane	0.840-0.967
Ethane	0.003-0.110
Propane	Trace-0.020
2-Methyl propane	Trace-0.004
Butane	Trace-0.004
Nitrogen	0.001-0.023
Carbon dioxide	Trace-0.017

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Table 2

Value of a_c

Plenum pressure, psia

Plenum
temperature,
deg R

	0	100	200	300	400	500	600	700	800	900	1000
450	-0.0265	-0.0297	-0.0330	-0.0365	-0.0399	-0.0430	-0.0452	-0.0458	-0.0435	-0.0361	-0.0206
460	-0.0272	-0.0302	-0.0334	-0.0366	-0.0398	-0.0426	-0.0448	-0.0457	-0.0443	-0.0394	-0.0290
470	-0.0279	-0.0308	-0.0338	-0.0368	-0.0398	-0.0424	-0.0445	-0.0455	-0.0448	-0.0414	-0.0343
480	-0.0285	-0.0313	-0.0342	-0.0371	-0.0398	-0.0423	-0.0442	-0.0453	-0.0451	-0.0428	-0.0376
490	-0.0292	-0.0318	-0.0346	-0.0373	-0.0399	-0.0422	-0.0441	-0.0452	-0.0452	-0.0437	-0.0399
500	-0.0298	-0.0324	-0.0350	-0.0375	-0.0400	-0.0422	-0.0440	-0.0451	-0.0454	-0.0443	-0.0416
510	-0.0304	-0.0329	-0.0353	-0.0378	-0.0401	-0.0422	-0.0439	-0.0451	-0.0455	-0.0448	-0.0427
520	-0.0310	-0.0333	-0.0357	-0.0380	-0.0402	-0.0422	-0.0439	-0.0450	-0.0455	-0.0451	-0.0436
530	-0.0315	-0.0338	-0.0361	-0.0383	-0.0404	-0.0423	-0.0439	-0.0450	-0.0456	-0.0454	-0.0443
540	-0.0321	-0.0343	-0.0365	-0.0386	-0.0406	-0.0424	-0.0439	-0.0450	-0.0456	-0.0456	-0.0448
550	-0.0326	-0.0347	-0.0368	-0.0388	-0.0407	-0.0425	-0.0439	-0.0450	-0.0457	-0.0458	-0.0452
560	-0.0331	-0.0351	-0.0371	-0.0391	-0.0409	-0.0426	-0.0440	-0.0451	-0.0458	-0.0459	-0.0455
570	-0.0335	-0.0355	-0.0375	-0.0393	-0.0411	-0.0427	-0.0440	-0.0451	-0.0458	-0.0461	-0.0458
580	-0.0340	-0.0359	-0.0378	-0.0396	-0.0412	-0.0428	-0.0441	-0.0451	-0.0458	-0.0462	-0.0460
590	-0.0344	-0.0362	-0.0380	-0.0398	-0.0414	-0.0428	-0.0441	-0.0451	-0.0459	-0.0462	-0.0462
600	-0.0348	-0.0366	-0.0383	-0.0400	-0.0415	-0.0429	-0.0441	-0.0451	-0.0459	-0.0463	-0.0463
610	-0.0351	-0.0368	-0.0385	-0.0401	-0.0416	-0.0430	-0.0442	-0.0451	-0.0459	-0.0463	-0.0464
620	-0.0354	-0.0371	-0.0387	-0.0403	-0.0417	-0.0430	-0.0442	-0.0451	-0.0458	-0.0463	-0.0464
630	-0.0357	-0.0373	-0.0389	-0.0404	-0.0418	-0.0430	-0.0442	-0.0451	-0.0458	-0.0462	-0.0464
640	-0.0360	-0.0375	-0.0390	-0.0405	-0.0418	-0.0430	-0.0441	-0.0450	-0.0457	-0.0462	-0.0464
650	-0.0362	-0.0377	-0.0392	-0.0406	-0.0418	-0.0430	-0.0441	-0.0449	-0.0456	-0.0461	-0.0463
660	-0.0363	-0.0378	-0.0392	-0.0406	-0.0418	-0.0430	-0.0440	-0.0448	-0.0455	-0.0460	-0.0462
670	-0.0365	-0.0379	-0.0393	-0.0406	-0.0418	-0.0429	-0.0439	-0.0447	-0.0453	-0.0458	-0.0461
680	-0.0366	-0.0380	-0.0393	-0.0406	-0.0417	-0.0428	-0.0437	-0.0445	-0.0452	-0.0456	-0.0459
690	-0.0367	-0.0380	-0.0393	-0.0405	-0.0416	-0.0427	-0.0436	-0.0443	-0.0450	-0.0454	-0.0457
700	-0.0367	-0.0380	-0.0392	-0.0404	-0.0415	-0.0425	-0.0434	-0.0441	-0.0447	-0.0452	-0.0455

Table 3

Value of b_c

Plenum pressure, psia

Plenum
temperature,
deg R

	0	100	200	300	400	500	600	700	800	900	1000
450	0.6719	0.6715	0.6713	0.6712	0.6713	0.6717	0.6723	0.6733	0.6747	0.6767	0.6791
460	0.6717	0.6714	0.6712	0.6712	0.6713	0.6717	0.6724	0.6734	0.6748	0.6766	0.6789
470	0.6714	0.6712	0.6711	0.6711	0.6714	0.6718	0.6725	0.6734	0.6747	0.6764	0.6786
480	0.6712	0.6710	0.6710	0.6711	0.6713	0.6718	0.6725	0.6734	0.6747	0.6763	0.6783
490	0.6709	0.6708	0.6708	0.6709	0.6712	0.6717	0.6724	0.6734	0.6746	0.6761	0.6780
500	0.6707	0.6706	0.6706	0.6708	0.6711	0.6716	0.6723	0.6733	0.6745	0.6759	0.6777
510	0.6704	0.6703	0.6704	0.6706	0.6710	0.6715	0.6722	0.6731	0.6743	0.6757	0.6774
520	0.6701	0.6701	0.6702	0.6704	0.6708	0.6714	0.6721	0.6730	0.6741	0.6755	0.6771
530	0.6698	0.6698	0.6699	0.6702	0.6706	0.6712	0.6719	0.6728	0.6739	0.6752	0.6767
540	0.6694	0.6695	0.6697	0.6700	0.6704	0.6709	0.6717	0.6726	0.6736	0.6749	0.6764
550	0.6691	0.6692	0.6694	0.6697	0.6701	0.6707	0.6714	0.6723	0.6734	0.6746	0.6760
560	0.6687	0.6689	0.6691	0.6694	0.6699	0.6704	0.6712	0.6720	0.6731	0.6743	0.6756
570	0.6684	0.6685	0.6687	0.6691	0.6696	0.6701	0.6709	0.6717	0.6727	0.6739	0.6753
580	0.6680	0.6681	0.6684	0.6688	0.6692	0.6698	0.6706	0.6714	0.6724	0.6735	0.6748
590	0.6676	0.6678	0.6680	0.6684	0.6689	0.6695	0.6702	0.6711	0.6720	0.6732	0.6744
600	0.6672	0.6674	0.6677	0.6681	0.6686	0.6692	0.6699	0.6707	0.6717	0.6728	0.6740
610	0.6668	0.6670	0.6673	0.6677	0.6682	0.6688	0.6695	0.6703	0.6713	0.6723	0.6735
620	0.6663	0.6666	0.6669	0.6673	0.6678	0.6684	0.6691	0.6699	0.6709	0.6719	0.6731
630	0.6659	0.6662	0.6665	0.6669	0.6674	0.6680	0.6687	0.6695	0.6705	0.6715	0.6726
640	0.6655	0.6657	0.6661	0.6665	0.6670	0.6676	0.6683	0.6691	0.6700	0.6710	0.6721
650	0.6650	0.6653	0.6656	0.6661	0.6666	0.6672	0.6679	0.6687	0.6696	0.6706	0.6717
660	0.6646	0.6649	0.6652	0.6657	0.6662	0.6668	0.6675	0.6683	0.6691	0.6701	0.6712
670	0.6641	0.6644	0.6648	0.6652	0.6658	0.6664	0.6671	0.6678	0.6687	0.6696	0.6707
680	0.6637	0.6640	0.6643	0.6648	0.6653	0.6659	0.6666	0.6674	0.6682	0.6692	0.6702
690	0.6632	0.6635	0.6639	0.6644	0.6649	0.6655	0.6662	0.6669	0.6678	0.6687	0.6697
700	0.6627	0.6631	0.6635	0.6639	0.6644	0.6651	0.6657	0.6665	0.6673	0.6682	0.6692

Table 4
Value of a_z

Plenum temperature, deg R	Plenum pressure, psia										
	0	100	200	300	400	500	600	700	800	900	1000
450	0.	-0.0252	-0.0530	-0.0837	-0.1179	-0.1561	-0.1988	-0.2464	-0.2991	-0.3564	-0.4162
460	0.	-0.0234	-0.0490	-0.0770	-0.1078	-0.1417	-0.1790	-0.2199	-0.2644	-0.3118	-0.3610
470	0.	-0.0218	-0.0454	-0.0710	-0.0989	-0.1293	-0.1622	-0.1978	-0.2360	-0.2762	-0.3175
480	0.	-0.0203	-0.0422	-0.0657	-0.0911	-0.1184	-0.1478	-0.1791	-0.2123	-0.2469	-0.2823
490	0.	-0.0190	-0.0393	-0.0610	-0.0842	-0.1089	-0.1353	-0.1631	-0.1923	-0.2225	-0.2532
500	0.	-0.0178	-0.0366	-0.0567	-0.0780	-0.1005	-0.1243	-0.1493	-0.1752	-0.2018	-0.2288
510	0.	-0.0166	-0.0342	-0.0528	-0.0724	-0.0931	-0.1147	-0.1371	-0.1604	-0.1841	-0.2079
520	0.	-0.0156	-0.0321	-0.0493	-0.0675	-0.0864	-0.1061	-0.1265	-0.1474	-0.1687	-0.1900
530	0.	-0.0147	-0.0301	-0.0462	-0.0630	-0.0804	-0.0984	-0.1170	-0.1360	-0.1552	-0.1743
540	0.	-0.0138	-0.0283	-0.0433	-0.0589	-0.0750	-0.0916	-0.1086	-0.1259	-0.1433	-0.1606
550	0.	-0.0130	-0.0266	-0.0406	-0.0551	-0.0701	-0.0854	-0.1010	-0.1169	-0.1327	-0.1485
560	0.	-0.0123	-0.0251	-0.0382	-0.0518	-0.0656	-0.0798	-0.0942	-0.1088	-0.1233	-0.1377
570	0.	-0.0116	-0.0236	-0.0360	-0.0487	-0.0616	-0.0748	-0.0881	-0.1015	-0.1149	-0.1281
580	0.	-0.0110	-0.0223	-0.0339	-0.0458	-0.0579	-0.0701	-0.0825	-0.0949	-0.1072	-0.1194
590	0.	-0.0104	-0.0211	-0.0320	-0.0432	-0.0545	-0.0659	-0.0774	-0.0889	-0.1003	-0.1116
600	0.	-0.0099	-0.0200	-0.0303	-0.0408	-0.0514	-0.0621	-0.0728	-0.0835	-0.0941	-0.1045
610	0.	-0.0094	-0.0190	-0.0287	-0.0385	-0.0485	-0.0585	-0.0685	-0.0785	-0.0883	-0.0980
620	0.	-0.0089	-0.0180	-0.0272	-0.0365	-0.0458	-0.0552	-0.0646	-0.0739	-0.0831	-0.0921
630	0.	-0.0085	-0.0171	-0.0258	-0.0346	-0.0434	-0.0522	-0.0610	-0.0697	-0.0783	-0.0867
640	0.	-0.0081	-0.0162	-0.0245	-0.0328	-0.0411	-0.0494	-0.0577	-0.0658	-0.0739	-0.0818
650	0.	-0.0077	-0.0154	-0.0233	-0.0311	-0.0390	-0.0468	-0.0546	-0.0623	-0.0698	-0.0772
660	0.	-0.0073	-0.0147	-0.0221	-0.0296	-0.0370	-0.0444	-0.0517	-0.0589	-0.0660	-0.0730
670	0.	-0.0070	-0.0140	-0.0211	-0.0281	-0.0352	-0.0422	-0.0491	-0.0559	-0.0625	-0.0691
680	0.	-0.0067	-0.0134	-0.0201	-0.0268	-0.0334	-0.0401	-0.0466	-0.0530	-0.0593	-0.0654
690	0.	-0.0064	-0.0128	-0.0192	-0.0255	-0.0318	-0.0381	-0.0443	-0.0503	-0.0563	-0.0621
700	0.	-0.0061	-0.0122	-0.0183	-0.0243	-0.0303	-0.0363	-0.0421	-0.0479	-0.0535	-0.0589

Table 5
Value of b_z

Plenum temperature, deg R	Plenum pressure, psia										
	0	100	200	300	400	500	600	700	800	900	1000
450	1.0000	0.9891	0.9780	0.9667	0.9552	0.9434	0.9315	0.9195	0.9075	0.8955	0.8837
460	1.0000	0.9899	0.9796	0.9692	0.9585	0.9478	0.9370	0.9261	0.9152	0.9044	0.8938
470	1.0000	0.9906	0.9810	0.9714	0.9616	0.9518	0.9419	0.9320	0.9221	0.9124	0.9028
480	1.0000	0.9912	0.9824	0.9734	0.9644	0.9553	0.9463	0.9373	0.9283	0.9195	0.9109
490	1.0000	0.9918	0.9836	0.9753	0.9669	0.9586	0.9503	0.9420	0.9339	0.9259	0.9181
500	1.0000	0.9924	0.9847	0.9770	0.9693	0.9616	0.9539	0.9464	0.9389	0.9316	0.9245
510	1.0000	0.9929	0.9857	0.9785	0.9714	0.9643	0.9573	0.9503	0.9435	0.9369	0.9304
520	1.0000	0.9933	0.9866	0.9800	0.9734	0.9668	0.9603	0.9539	0.9477	0.9416	0.9357
530	1.0000	0.9937	0.9875	0.9813	0.9752	0.9691	0.9631	0.9572	0.9515	0.9459	0.9406
540	1.0000	0.9941	0.9883	0.9826	0.9768	0.9712	0.9657	0.9603	0.9550	0.9499	0.9450
550	1.0000	0.9945	0.9891	0.9837	0.9784	0.9732	0.9681	0.9631	0.9582	0.9535	0.9490
560	1.0000	0.9949	0.9898	0.9848	0.9798	0.9750	0.9702	0.9656	0.9612	0.9569	0.9527
570	1.0000	0.9952	0.9904	0.9857	0.9811	0.9766	0.9723	0.9680	0.9639	0.9599	0.9562
580	1.0000	0.9955	0.9910	0.9867	0.9824	0.9782	0.9741	0.9702	0.9664	0.9628	0.9593
590	1.0000	0.9958	0.9916	0.9875	0.9835	0.9797	0.9759	0.9723	0.9688	0.9654	0.9622
600	1.0000	0.9960	0.9921	0.9883	0.9846	0.9810	0.9775	0.9741	0.9709	0.9678	0.9649
610	1.0000	0.9963	0.9926	0.9891	0.9856	0.9823	0.9790	0.9759	0.9729	0.9701	0.9674
620	1.0000	0.9965	0.9931	0.9898	0.9865	0.9834	0.9804	0.9776	0.9748	0.9722	0.9698
630	1.0000	0.9967	0.9935	0.9904	0.9874	0.9845	0.9817	0.9791	0.9766	0.9742	0.9719
640	1.0000	0.9969	0.9939	0.9910	0.9882	0.9856	0.9830	0.9805	0.9782	0.9760	0.9740
650	1.0000	0.9971	0.9943	0.9916	0.9890	0.9865	0.9841	0.9819	0.9797	0.9777	0.9758
660	1.0000	0.9973	0.9947	0.9922	0.9897	0.9874	0.9852	0.9831	0.9812	0.9793	0.9776
670	1.0000	0.9975	0.9950	0.9927	0.9904	0.9883	0.9862	0.9843	0.9825	0.9808	0.9793
680	1.0000	0.9976	0.9953	0.9931	0.9911	0.9891	0.9872	0.9854	0.9838	0.9822	0.9808
690	1.0000	0.9978	0.9956	0.9936	0.9917	0.9898	0.9881	0.9865	0.9849	0.9835	0.9823
700	1.0000	0.9979	0.9959	0.9940	0.9922	0.9905	0.9889	0.9874	0.9861	0.9848	0.9836

Table 6
CRITICAL FLOW FACTOR, C*, FOR METHANE

PLENUM TEMPERATURE DEG R	PLENUM PRESSURE, PSIA										
	0	100	200	300	400	500	600	700	800	900	1000
450	0.6717	0.6790	0.6867	0.6951	0.7041	0.7137	0.7242	0.7356	0.7479	0.7613	0.7759
460	0.6715	0.6784	0.6856	0.6934	0.7017	0.7106	0.7202	0.7304	0.7415	0.7534	0.7661
470	0.6713	0.6778	0.6846	0.6918	0.6995	0.7077	0.7165	0.7258	0.7358	0.7464	0.7577
480	0.6711	0.6771	0.6836	0.6903	0.6975	0.7051	0.7131	0.7216	0.7304	0.7402	0.7503
490	0.6708	0.6765	0.6826	0.6889	0.6956	0.7026	0.7100	0.7178	0.7260	0.7346	0.7437
500	0.6706	0.6760	0.6816	0.6875	0.6938	0.7003	0.7071	0.7143	0.7218	0.7296	0.7378
510	0.6703	0.6754	0.6807	0.6862	0.6920	0.6981	0.7044	0.7110	0.7179	0.7250	0.7325
520	0.6700	0.6748	0.6798	0.6850	0.6904	0.6961	0.7019	0.7080	0.7143	0.7209	0.7276
530	0.6697	0.6742	0.6789	0.6838	0.6889	0.6941	0.6996	0.7052	0.7110	0.7170	0.7232
540	0.6693	0.6736	0.6781	0.6827	0.6874	0.6923	0.6974	0.7026	0.7080	0.7135	0.7192
550	0.6690	0.6730	0.6772	0.6815	0.6860	0.6906	0.6953	0.7002	0.7051	0.7102	0.7155
560	0.6686	0.6725	0.6764	0.6805	0.6846	0.6889	0.6933	0.6978	0.7025	0.7072	0.7120
570	0.6682	0.6719	0.6756	0.6794	0.6833	0.6874	0.6915	0.6957	0.7000	0.7043	0.7088
580	0.6679	0.6713	0.6748	0.6784	0.6821	0.6859	0.6897	0.6936	0.6976	0.7017	0.7058
590	0.6675	0.6707	0.6740	0.6774	0.6809	0.6844	0.6880	0.6917	0.6954	0.6992	0.7030
600	0.6671	0.6701	0.6733	0.6765	0.6797	0.6830	0.6864	0.6898	0.6933	0.6968	0.7004
610	0.6666	0.6695	0.6725	0.6755	0.6786	0.6817	0.6849	0.6881	0.6913	0.6946	0.6979
620	0.6662	0.6690	0.6718	0.6746	0.6775	0.6804	0.6834	0.6864	0.6894	0.6925	0.6956
630	0.6658	0.6684	0.6710	0.6737	0.6765	0.6792	0.6820	0.6848	0.6876	0.6905	0.6934
640	0.6653	0.6678	0.6703	0.6729	0.6754	0.6780	0.6806	0.6833	0.6859	0.6886	0.6913
650	0.6649	0.6672	0.6696	0.6720	0.6744	0.6769	0.6793	0.6818	0.6843	0.6868	0.6893
660	0.6645	0.6667	0.6689	0.6712	0.6735	0.6758	0.6781	0.6804	0.6827	0.6851	0.6874
670	0.6640	0.6661	0.6682	0.6704	0.6725	0.6747	0.6769	0.6791	0.6812	0.6834	0.6856
680	0.6635	0.6655	0.6675	0.6696	0.6716	0.6736	0.6757	0.6778	0.6798	0.6819	0.6839
690	0.6631	0.6650	0.6669	0.6688	0.6707	0.6726	0.6746	0.6765	0.6784	0.6804	0.6823
700	0.6626	0.6644	0.6662	0.6680	0.6698	0.6717	0.6735	0.6753	0.6771	0.6789	0.6808

Table 7
COMPRESSIBILITY FACTOR, Z, FOR METHANE

PLENUM TEMPERATURE DEG R	PLENUM PRESSURE, PSIA										
	0	100	200	300	400	500	600	700	800	900	1000
450	1.0000	0.9780	0.9556	0.9331	0.9103	0.8874	0.8643	0.8412	0.8182	0.7955	0.7732
460	1.0000	0.9795	0.9588	0.9379	0.9169	0.8959	0.8749	0.8539	0.8331	0.8127	0.7927
470	1.0000	0.9809	0.9616	0.9423	0.9230	0.9037	0.8844	0.8653	0.8465	0.8280	0.8099
480	1.0000	0.9821	0.9643	0.9464	0.9285	0.9108	0.8931	0.8757	0.8585	0.8417	0.8254
490	1.0000	0.9833	0.9667	0.9501	0.9336	0.9172	0.9010	0.8850	0.8694	0.8541	0.8393
500	1.0000	0.9845	0.9690	0.9536	0.9383	0.9232	0.9083	0.8936	0.8793	0.8653	0.8518
510	1.0000	0.9855	0.9711	0.9567	0.9426	0.9286	0.9149	0.9014	0.8883	0.8755	0.8632
520	1.0000	0.9864	0.9730	0.9597	0.9466	0.9337	0.9210	0.9086	0.8965	0.8849	0.8736
530	1.0000	0.9873	0.9748	0.9624	0.9503	0.9383	0.9266	0.9152	0.9041	0.8934	0.8831
540	1.0000	0.9882	0.9765	0.9650	0.9537	0.9426	0.9318	0.9213	0.9111	0.9013	0.8918
550	1.0000	0.9889	0.9780	0.9673	0.9569	0.9466	0.9366	0.9269	0.9175	0.9085	0.8998
560	1.0000	0.9897	0.9795	0.9696	0.9598	0.9503	0.9411	0.9321	0.9235	0.9152	0.9072
570	1.0000	0.9903	0.9809	0.9716	0.9626	0.9538	0.9452	0.9370	0.9290	0.9214	0.9141
580	1.0000	0.9910	0.9821	0.9735	0.9651	0.9570	0.9491	0.9415	0.9341	0.9271	0.9204
590	1.0000	0.9916	0.9833	0.9753	0.9675	0.9600	0.9527	0.9456	0.9387	0.9324	0.9263
600	1.0000	0.9921	0.9845	0.9770	0.9698	0.9628	0.9560	0.9495	0.9433	0.9374	0.9318
610	1.0000	0.9927	0.9855	0.9786	0.9719	0.9654	0.9591	0.9532	0.9474	0.9420	0.9368
620	1.0000	0.9931	0.9865	0.9801	0.9738	0.9678	0.9621	0.9566	0.9513	0.9463	0.9416
630	1.0000	0.9936	0.9874	0.9814	0.9757	0.9701	0.9648	0.9597	0.9549	0.9503	0.9460
640	1.0000	0.9940	0.9883	0.9827	0.9774	0.9723	0.9674	0.9627	0.9583	0.9541	0.9501
650	1.0000	0.9945	0.9891	0.9840	0.9790	0.9743	0.9698	0.9655	0.9614	0.9576	0.9540
660	1.0000	0.9948	0.9899	0.9851	0.9805	0.9762	0.9720	0.9681	0.9644	0.9609	0.9576
670	1.0000	0.9952	0.9906	0.9862	0.9820	0.9780	0.9742	0.9706	0.9672	0.9640	0.9610
680	1.0000	0.9956	0.9913	0.9872	0.9833	0.9796	0.9762	0.9729	0.9698	0.9669	0.9642
690	1.0000	0.9959	0.9919	0.9882	0.9846	0.9812	0.9780	0.9750	0.9722	0.9696	0.9672
700	1.0000	0.9962	0.9925	0.9891	0.9858	0.9827	0.9798	0.9771	0.9745	0.9722	0.9701

Table 8

Comparison of Functions for Methane Determined from Tables 3 and 5 with these Same Functions Obtained by Using the Most Accurate State Equation from Reference 11.

T_{CR}	p_0 psia	$\frac{a_{Z_0}}{b_{Z_0}} - 1$	$\frac{a_{C^*}}{b_{C^*}} - 1$
450	500	0.0029	-0.0024
	1000	.0100	-.0095
500	500	.0016	-.0027
	1000	.0034	-.0065
550	500	.0005	-.0020
	1000	.0009	-.0045
600	500	-.0005	-.0012
	1000	-.0008	-.0027
650	500	-.0011	-.0009
	1000	-.0019	-.0013
700	500	-.0016	-.0003
	1000	-.0027	-.0006

^aThis superscript refers to values determined from tables 3 and 5.

^bThis superscript refers to values obtained by using the state equation in reference 11.

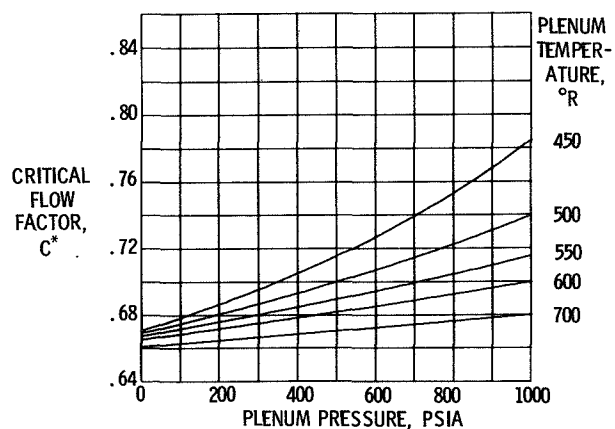


Figure 1. - Critical flow factor for a natural gas.
Composition by volume is: 0.9535 methane,
0.0296 ethane, 0.0046 propane, 0.0007 2-methyl
propane, 0.0006 butane, 0.0040 nitrogen, and
0.0070 carbon dioxide.

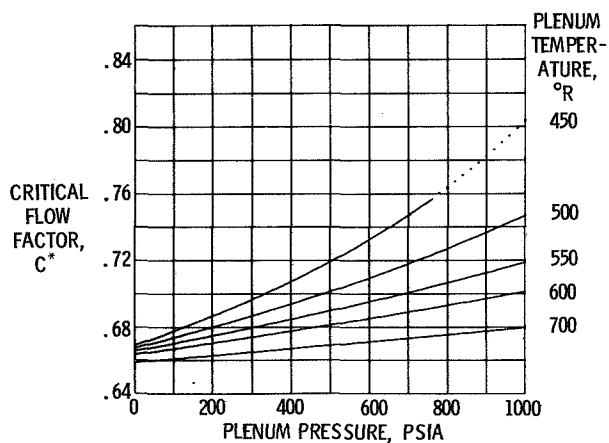


Figure 2. - Critical flow factor for a natural gas.
Composition by volume is: 0.8850 methane,
0.0795 ethane, 0.0110 propane, 0.0007 2-methyl
propane, 0.0017 butane, 0.0221 nitrogen, and
0 carbon dioxide.